

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

**Claim Amendments:**

**Claim 1 (currently amended).** An electrical connector comprising:

a connector body having an inlet end and an outlet end,  
said outlet end including a pair of spaced apart shoulders,  
said shoulders extending radially outwardly of said outlet  
end,

a recess defined between said shoulders about said outlet  
end,

an annular retainer ring supported directly on said  
shoulders,

a plurality of spring tangs blanked out of said retainer  
ring,

said tangs being circumferentially spaced about said  
retainer ring and projecting outwardly of said retainer ring in a  
cantilever manner,

said tangs being ~~disposed~~ spaced above said recess whereby  
said recess provides a relief space for said tangs to ~~facilitate~~  
minimize the force required for insertion of said connector  
through a knock out hole of an electric box to effect a snap fit  
connection.

**Claim 2 (currently amended).** An electrical connector

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

comprising:

a connector body having an inlet end and an outlet end,  
said outlet end having opposed arcuate portion and opposed flattened portions interconnecting said arcuate portions,

external threads ~~having~~ defining a groove between adjacent threads formed on said opposed arcuate portions of said outlet end,

a snap fit retainer ring circumscribing said ~~external threads~~ outlet end, said retainer ring having opposed curvilinear portions complementing said arcuate portions and opposed planer portions complementing said flattened portions of said outlet end,

said retainer ring having a plurality of tangs formed out of said curvilinear portions of said retainer ring,

said tangs being circumferentially spaced about said curvilinear portions of said retainer ring, and said tangs projecting radially outwardly of said retainer ring in a cantilever manner,

and said retainer ring having a plurality of dimples forming a depression circumferentially spaced about the inner circumference of said curvilinear portions of said retainer ring and projecting inwardly of said retainer ring,

~~whereby~~ said dimples being arranged to project into said

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

grooves defined between said adjacent threads for prohibiting separation of the connector body from said retainer ring when secured to an electric box, said complementary flattened portions of said outlet end and complementary planer portions of said retainer ring prohibits any rotation of said retainer ring relative to said outlet end.

**Claim 3 (currently amended).** An electrical connector as defined in Claim 2 wherein said plurality of tangs include:

a series of tangs blanked out of the material of said retainer ring whereby each tang of said series has a free end which includes a longitudinal trailing edge portion of said retainer ring,

and said longitudinal trailing edge portion being arcuately shaped so as to engage the edge of a knock out hole of an electric box for effecting electrical grounding of said connector.

**Claim 4 (original).** An electrical connector as defined in Claim 3 wherein said free end of each of said tangs of said series includes a compound curvature in both a transverse and longitudinal direction.

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

**Claim 5 (original).** An electrical connector as defined in Claim 3 wherein said plurality of tangs includes a second series of tangs circumferentially spaced about said retainer ring,

each of said second series of tangs being disposed about said retainer ring intermediately between the opposed longitudinal edges of said retainer ring,

said tangs of said second series of tangs having a free end and opposed outer wing portions adapted to engage an inner surface of the electric box, and

said free end of each of said second series of tangs having a projecting tip adapted to engage a peripheral portion of the knock out hole of an electrical box.

**Claim 6 (canceled).**

**Claim 7 (currently amended).** A snap fit retainer ring adapted for use on an electrical connector having a ~~thread~~ an externally threaded outlet end to effect a snap fit connection to an electrical box comprising:

a blank of a spring type metallic material,

said blank having opposed longitudinal extending edges and opposed end portions,

said opposed end portions being slightly spaced apart when

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

said blank is formed to define a ring,

said ring including opposed curvilinear portions and opposed flattened portions interconnecting said opposed curvilinear portions,

a plurality of tangs longitudinally spaced along the length of said blank,

said plurality of tangs including a series of tangs ~~blanked~~ formed out of said blank,

each of said tangs of said series being bent outwardly of said blank, and

a plurality of longitudinally spaced dimples projecting inwardly of said ring arranged to ~~engage the grooves~~ be disposed between adjacent threads of an the outlet end of a connector.

**Claim 8 (original).** A snap fit retainer ring as defined in Claim 7 wherein said dimples are laterally spaced transversely of the width of said ring.

**Claim 9 (canceled).**

**Claim 10 (currently amended).** An electrical connector assembly in combination with an electric box having at least one knockout hole comprising:

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

a connector body defining an inlet end and an outlet end,  
said outlet end having opposed arcuate portions and  
flattened portions interconnected between said arcuate portions,

an outwardly radially extending flange circumscribing said  
~~inlet end~~ connector body, said flange forming a stop to limit the  
~~insertion~~ positioning of said connector body through a knock out  
opening of an electrical box,

external threads defining a groove between adjacent threads  
formed on said arcuate portions of said outlet end,

said flattened portion of said outlet end being free of any  
threads,

a snap fit retainer ring supported on said external threads,  
said snap fit retainer ring having opposed curvilinear  
portions and interconnecting opposed planer portions  
complementing said arcuate and flattened portions of said outlet  
end,

said snap fit retainer ring including a plurality of  
circumferentially spaced tangs formed on said curvilinear  
portions,

said plurality of tangs including a first series of spaced  
apart tangs,

said tangs of said first series of tangs being blanked out  
of the material of said retainer ring,

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

said tangs of said first series of tangs being bent laterally outwardly of said retainer ring whereby the free end of said first series of tangs includes a ~~longitudinally~~ longitudinal trailing edge portion of said retainer ring,

and said plurality of tangs including a second series of tangs,

said tangs of said second series of tangs being blanked out of said retainer ring disposed wholly between the opposed longitudinal edges of said retainer ring,

said tangs of said second series of tangs being bent laterally outwardly of said retainer ring, and

said tangs of said second series of tangs including opposed outwardly bent wing portions and a projecting tit whereby the free ends of said wing portions are adapted to engage the inner surface of the electrical box and said projecting tit ~~engaging~~ engages the inner periphery of the knock out hole ~~of the electric box in the assembled position of the electric box and connector~~ to insure an electric grounding connection therebetween,

said retainer ring having a plurality of dimples forming depressions circumferentially spaced about the inner circumference of said retainer ring,

said dimples projecting inwardly of said retainer ring whereby said dimples engage ~~the groove~~ said groove formed between

SN 10/790,283  
P-2464/CIP

adjacent threads, and

wherein said dimples are laterally spaced transversely of  
the width of said retainer ring, and

a clamping means connected to said inlet end for securing a  
conductor relative to said connector body.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended). An electrical connector  
assembly as defined in Claim 10 wherein said snap fit retainer  
ring is rendered readily removable from said external threads,  
whereby said outlet end may be optionally threadedly  
connected to an outlet box.